

NC-5108
05 February 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Nicosia Bureau--January

I. GENERAL

A. The bureau completed its evaluation of the two sites being considered for relocation and forwarded its recommendations to Headquarters in early January. Headquarters and higher authority concurred with our preference for the larger site, covering about four acres, and at month's end we were advised that funding was available. Negotiations on price are scheduled to begin in early February with the owner of the land, the Archbishop of Cyprus.

B. The bureau was visited 14-25 January by a team of computer specialists from CRW, which initiated bureau personnel into the mysteries of our three IBM Personal Computers. Three series of classes were held, tailored to the bureau's specific needs, and covering Disk Operating Systems, computerized lateral service applications, MULTIMATE word processing, and LOTUS 1-2-3 spreadsheet functions. The instruction generated considerable enthusiasm, and resulted in a freewheeling meeting involving the CRW team, the bureau's U.S. staffers, and our chief teletypists, at which new uses for London Bureau's seminal work in lateral service automation were devised. These include the real-time generation of message headers by desk editors, and the ability for the editors to create both headers and high-precedence traffic (FYI's, service messages) in the form of completed perforated tapes, ready for immediate transmission. It was determined that the savings in time and redundant typing in these areas can be achieved at the cost of modest alterations to the LD-devised CAAS software.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. In view of anti-American threats uttered by Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of Lebanon's Islamic Unification Movement, the bureau placed Tripoli Lebanon Islamic Unification Radio, which represents Sha'ban's movement, on Class C coverage for 30 days.

2. The 17-20 January summit between Cyprus President Kiprianou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktas, the first such meeting since May 1979, was followed with close attention by local Embassy and other consumers, and was the subject of exhaustive filing by the bureau. Special coverage was also arranged of extra early morning newscasts laid on by Nicosia Radio.

3. Per request from MOD, the bureau's Arabic team began to monitor a clandestine radio identifying itself as the Voice of the Libyan People on 26 January for a 1-week trial period.

B. Technical

1. The second remote system to the Pissouri site has been completed including the addition of 6 TRG Multicouplers to enhance the use of the remote antennas.

2. One of our remote microwave links has been replaced by land lines and the system was shipped to Swaziland.

3. We bought and shipped several JVC Video Recorders and TV monitors for Swaziland.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Deputy Chief [] departed PCS 24 January.

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2. Editor [] arrived PCS 18 January.

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3. Senior Editor [] arrived PCS 31 January.

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4. [] assumed duties as deputy chief on 21 January.

B. Visitors

1. OPS/Personnel officers led by [] visited the bureau 9-13 January in connection with personnel classification.

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2. CRW training team 13-18 January.

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[]
Chief
FBIS/Nicosia Bureau

ATTACHMENT:

Production Report